

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Huse *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/982,464

Group No.: 1642

Filed: 10/18/01

Examiner: L. Helms

Entitled: **Methods of Optimizing Antibody Variable  
Region Binding Affinity**



**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)(1)(i)(A)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: March 30, 2004

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Mary Ellen Waite

Examiner Helms:

This communication is submitted in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), and in Response to the Final Office Action mailed October 30, 2003. A petition for a two (2) month extension of time is enclosed.

A status of all claims with instructions for entry pursuant to revised 37 C.F.R. §1.121 is included beginning on page two of this communication.